

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-07 AID-05 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 USIA-15 OES-07
SP-02 SS-15 STR-05 TRSE-00 ACDA-10 /118 W
-----129710 162031Z /73

R 161952Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4777
INFO AMCONSUL CALGARY

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 OTTAWA 08406

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ENRG, CA, SENV
SUBJECT: BEAUFORT SEA DRILLING

1. FOLLOWING ARE THE TEXTS OF DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AND
NORTHERN AFFAIRS WEEKLY EXECUTIVE SUMMARY REPORTS ON
BEAUFORT SEA DRILLING FOR THE WEEKS ENDED SEPTEMBER 2
AND SEPTEMBER 9:

A. BEAUFORT SEA WEEKLY EXECUTIVE SUMMARY REPORT NO. 7
TO 1200 HRS. SEPTEMBER 2/77.

BEGIN TEXT: 1. DRILLING PROGRESS SINCE LAST REPORT.
EXPLORER - DOME GULF ET AL UKALERK C-50 D.A. 879
6500' TO 7400'. EXPLORER II - HUNT DOME KOPANOAR M-13
D.A. 860, 5394' TO 5394' (NO CHANGE). EXPLORER III -
DOME HUNT NEKTORALIK K-59 D.A. 854, 7040' TO 7040'.
2. DRILLING PERFORMANCE - PAST WEEK

AT UKALERK A 9-5/8" CASING WAS SET (SEE LAST REPORT)
AFTER WHICH THE COMPANY DRILLED TO 7400'. THE DRILL
PIPE PARTED AT 6355': THE REASONS FOR WHICH ARE UNKNOWN
AT THIS TIME. A RE-CONNECTION WAS MADE HOWEVER THE
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PIPE WAS FOUND TO BE STUCK IN THE HOLE. REPEATED ATTEMPTS
TO JAR IT FREE FAILED. THE PIPE WAS CUT OFF AT 6631'
AND THE HOLE WAS CEMENTED 500' ABOVE THE CUT-OFF POINT
IN PREPARATION FOR SIDE-TRACKING.

PROBLEMS WERE ENCOUNTERED AT KOPANOAR M-13 IN SETTING
THE 13-3/8" CASING. A LOGGING TOOL BECAME STUCK IN THE

HOLE AT Z 3285' BUT WAS SUCCESSFULLY RECOVERED. THE OPEN HOLE PORTION HAS REQUIRED REAMING WHICH HAS BEEN GOING ON MOST OF THE WEEK SINCE TIGHT SPOTS ARE BEING ENCOUNTERED. ONCE THE 13-3/8" CASING IS SET, DRILLING CAN AGAIN PROCEED.

THE 9-5/8" CASING BEING INSTALLED AT NEKTORALIK BECAME STUCK ABOUT 200-300' OFF BOTTOM. ATTEMPTS WERE MADE TO FREE THE CASING BY PUMPING FRICTION REDUCERS MIXED WITH DIESEL FUEL BEHIND THE CASING BUT TO NO AVAIL. THE CASING WAS CUT-OFF AND AN ATTEMPT WAS MADE TO RUN A PATCH WHICH FAILED. THE COMPANY IS RE-DRESSING THE CUT-OFF POINT AND WILL ATTEMPT ANOTHER PATCH.

3. GOVERNMENT INSPECTIONS:

ENVIRONMENTAL:

AS REPORTED LAST WEEK GUIDELINES FOR WHOLE TANK DISPOSAL OF MUD AT LOWER THAN THE 25:1 DILUTION RATIO ARE UNDER PREPARATION BY EPS. THIS PAST WEEK APPROVAL WAS GIVEN TO DUMP 365 BBLs. OF MUD AT 13:1. WHERE UNDESIRABLE ELEMENTS ARE PRESENT, SUCH AS DIESEL FUEL AND ADDITIVES, THE HIGHER RATIO 25:1 IS BEING MAINTAINED. THE COMPANY HAS BEEN PRACTISING IN THE USE OF THEIR OIL SPILL CONTAINMENT EQUIPMENT FOLLOWING THEIR UNSUCCESSFUL TEST AS MENTIONED IN THE LAST REPORT, A DEMONSTRATION OF THE EQUIPMENT IS PLANNED FOR THURSDAY, UNCLASSIFIED

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SEPTEMBER 8, 1977.

OIL AND GAS:

TWENTY-FOUR HOUR INSPECTION SERVICE IS BEING MAINTAINED ON ALL DRILLSHIPS, HOWEVER, POSSIBLE REDUCTION OF THIS IS BEING DISCUSSED WITH OTTAWA STAFF AS IT WILL APPLY AFTER SEPTEMBER 26, 1977.

5. REPORTING:

THE WEEKLY BRIEFING WAS HELD THIS MORNING WITH DIAND STAFF PRESENT ONLY. END TEXT.

TO 1200 HRS. SEPTEMBER 9, 1977.

BEGIN TEXT: 1. DRILLING PROGRESS SINCE LAST REPORT.

EXPLORER - DOME GULF ET AL UKALERK C-50 D.A. 879

740': PLUGGED BACK TOTAL DEPTH 5167': FOOTAGE DRILLED 0.

EXPLORER II - HUNT DOME KOPANOAR M-13 D.A. 860 5394':

FOOTAGE DRILLED 0. EXPLORER III - DOME HUNT NEKTORALIK

K-59 D.A. 854 7040' TO 7505'. 2. DRILLING PERFORMANCE

- PAST WEEK.

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ABANDONMENT PROCEDURES WERE SUSPENDED AFTER THE COMPANY
DECIDED TO ATTEMPT TO SALVAGE THE WELL. DOME REPRESENTATIVES
MET WITH DINA OIL AND GAS PERSONNEL SEPTEMBER 8 PRIOR TO
RECEIVING FINAL APPROVAL OF THEIR PLAN WHICH WERE REPORTED
IN DAILY REPORT NO. 39. THEY HAVE CEMENTED 9 5/8" - 13 3/8"
ANNULUS AND ARE PRESSURE TESTING PRIOR TO INITIATING DYNA
OPERATION.

AT KOPANOAR AFTER EXCESSIVE REAMING THE 13 3/8" CASING
WAS FINALLY SET. A PRESSURE TEST REVEALED A LEAK, THEY ARE
ATTEMPTING TO SEAL IT OFF, THEN TO CONTINUE MAKING NEW HOLE.
AT THE NEKTORALIK WELL THEY HAVE DRILLED OUT OF THEIR 9 5/8"
CASING AND WERE PROCEEDING WITH CAUTION DUE TO HIGH PRESSURES
ENCOUNTERED. THEY PLAN TO SET 7" CASING NOW.

GOVERNMENT INSPECTIONS:
ENVIRONMENT:

GERRY GLAZIER ALONG WITH A DFE INSPECTOR AND OBSERVERS
FROM OTTAWA WERE IN THE BEAUFORT SEA AREA TO OBSERVE THE
RETESTING OF THE OIL SPILLCONTAINMENT EQUIPMENT AND TO VISIT
THE SHIPS. ALL OBSERVERS WERE SATISFIED
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THAT THE CONTAINMENT OPERATIONS WAS COMPLETED SUCCESS-

FULLY AND THAT NO MAJOR ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN EXISTED
AT THE SHIPS. OBSERVATIONS AT THE TINGMIARK SITE
FROM A HELICOPTER FAILED TO REVEAL ANY BUBBLES IN SIGHT.

OIL AND GAS;

TWENTY FOUR HOUR INSPECTION SERVICE IS STILL BEING
MAINTAINED ON ALL DRILL SHIPS.

5. REPORTING:

AN AWAC BRIEFING WAS CALLED SEPTEMBER 6 TO INFORM ALL
CONCERNED OF GAS BUBBLES AND WATER FLOW AT TINGMIARK
THE COMPANY WAS REQUESTED TO SUBMIT ESTIMATES OF
QUANTITIES REGARDING BOTH GAS AND WATER. THEY WERE
ALSO REQUIRED TO OBTAIN BOTTOM SAMPLES AND WATER SAMPLES
FOR ANALYSIS AND TO DO ON SITE TESTING.

THE REGULAR BRIEFING WAS HELD THIS MORNING WITH FOUR
DFA AND SEVEN DINA PERSONNEL PRESENT. TINGMIARK AGAIN
DOMINATED THE AGENDA. SOME OF THE NEW DATA REQUESTED
IS ANTICIPATED SEPTEMBER 12 AND ANOTHER MEETING WILL BE
CALLED THEN. END TEXT. ENDERS

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